## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A bacterial culture medium, for use under anaerobic conditions, comprising at least one metal complex which allows the oxidative polymerization of an indoxyl chemical derivative and a substrate containing an indoxyl chemical derivative ~~resulting~~ to result in an insoluble colored compound.

2. (Currently Amended) The culture medium as claimed in claim 1, in which said metal complex has a concentration of between 0.3 and 0.9 mg/ml, preferably 0.6 mg/ml.

3. (Original) The culture medium as claimed in either of claims 1 and 2, in which said metal complex is ammoniacal iron citrate.

4. (Currently Amended) The culture medium as claimed in claim 1, in which said substrate is selected from ~~X-Gal~~ 5-~~Bromo~~bromo-4-chloro-3-indolyl-b-D-galactoside, ~~X-Phos~~ 5-~~Bromo~~bromo-4-chloro-3-indolyl-phosphate, ~~X-acglmn~~5-bromo-4-chloro-indolyl-N-acetyl-b-D-glucosaminide, ~~Mag-Gal~~5-bromo-6-chloro-3-indolyl-b-D-galactopyranoside, ~~Mag-α-Gal~~5-bromo-6-chloro-3-indolyl-α-D-galactopyranoside, and ~~Mal-Phos~~5-bromo-6-chloro-3-indolyl phosphate~~, preferably X-Gal~~.

5. (Currently Amended) The culture medium as claimed in claim 4, in which said substrate has a concentration of between 10 and 500 mg/l~~, particularly between 50 and 200 mg/l, preferably at 100 mg/ml~~.

6. (Previously Presented) The culture medium as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that it is intended for the detection of anaerobic bacteria, aerobic anaerobic bacteria and any bacterium producing a β-galatosidase.

7. (Currently Amended) The culture medium as claimed in claim 6, characterized in that it is intended for culturing bacteria of the genus *Bifidobacterium, Clostridium, Citrobacter, Escherichia,* and/or *Bacteroides*~~, in particular of the strains *Bifidobacterium bifidum, Clostridium perfringens, Clostridium butyricum, E. coli,* and/or *Bacteroides fragilis*~~.

8. (Original) The culture medium as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that it comprises cysteinated Columbia medium.

9. (Currently Amended) The culture medium as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that it comprises, in addition, magnesium sulfate at a concentration of between 5 mM and 100 mM~~, preferably 20 mM,~~ and/or at least one antibiotic.

10-24 (Cancelled)

25. (Currently Amended) The culture medium as claimed in Claim 1, ~~wherein~~further comprising:

a) ~~there are added to~~ a medium ~~which may contain~~containing bacteria, wherein the bacteria is cultured under anaerobic conditions, and containing at least one substrate containing an indoxyl chemical derivative resulting in an insoluble colored compound; and

b) at least one oxidizing metal complex, ~~in particular ammoniacal iron citrate, is added~~wherein at least one oxidizing metal complex is ammonicacal iron citrate,

~~c) the appearance of a colored precipitate around the colonies, (halo) and/or a color of the colonies is visualized~~

wherein the bacteria contains one of an appearance of a colored precipitate around the colonies, a color of the colonies, and both an appearance of a colored precipitate around the colonies and a color of the colonies.

26. (Currently Amended) The culture medium as claimed in Claim 1, ~~wherein~~further comprising:

~~a) bacteria are cultured in said medium, and~~

~~b) the appearance of a colored precipitate around the colonies (halo) and/or a color of the colonies is visualized.~~

bacteria, wherein the bacteria is cultured in said medium and contains one of an appearance of a colored precipitate around the colonies, a color of the colonies, and both an appearance of a colored precipitate around the colonies and a color of the colonies.

27. (Currently Amended) The culture medium as claimed in Claim 1 further comprising an enzyme allowing the release of an indoxyl chemical derivative from a substrate containing an indoxyl chemical derivative.